Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A system for detecting and preventing infringement of intellectual property over a communication medium, said system comprising:

(a) a database of search intellectual property;

(b) at least one service module for interfacing with said communication medium;

(c) a data processing system interfacable with said at least one service module and said database;

(i) said data processing system for accessing said database to retrieve said search intellectual property;

(ii) said data processing system for accessing said communication medium using said at least one service module;

(iii) said data processing system for searching for said search intellectual property over said communication medium; and

(iv) said data processing system for detecting possible infringements of said intellectual property to be protected and for producing a possible infractors list;

(d) an infraction module interfacable with said data processing system;

(i) said infraction module for receiving said possible infractors list from said data processing system; and

(ii) said infraction module verifying infringements and producing an actual infractors list; and

(e) a cease-and-desist module interfacable with said infraction processing system;

(i) said cease-and-desist module for receiving said actual infractors list from said infraction module; and

(ii) said cease-and-desist module for attempting to stop said infringements over said communication medium.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1, said at least one service module selected from the group of service modules consisting of:

(a) a Usenet service module;
(b) a news group service module;
(c) an FTP service module;
(d) an IRC service module;
(e) a WWW service module;
(f) a Hotline service module;
(g) an e-mail service module;
(h) a TCP/IP service module;
(i) a Novell NetWare service module;
(j) a LANtastic Network service module;
(k) a Gopher service module;
(l) an HTTP service module;
(m) a Telnet service module;
(n) an rlogin service module;
(o) a finger service module;
(p) a wide-area network service module;
(q) an intranet service module; and
(r) a Gnutella module.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one service module is a plurality of service modules, at least one of said plurality of service modules interfacable with another at least one of said plurality of service modules to provide a communication link to a possible infractor thereto.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 1, said data processing system further comprising at least one module selected from the group of modules consisting of:

(a) at least one database interface module;
(b) at least one file name repository module;
(c) at least one directory name repository module;
(d) at least one file path repository module;
(e) at least one checksum repository module;
(f) at least one file size repository module; and
(g) at least one reference address repository module.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 1, said data processing system further comprising at least one infringement-identification module interfacable with said at least one service module and said infraction module:

(a) said infringement-identification module receiving content input from said at least one service module;
(b) said infringement-identification module comparing said content input to said search intellectual property; and
(c) said infringement-identification module outputting matches between said content input and said intellectual property to said infraction module.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 5, said content input further comprising at least one listing selected from the group of listings consisting of:

(a) Usenet traffic listings;
(b) FTP content listings;
(c) IRC offering listings;
(d) WWW site listings;
(e) Hotline listings; and
(f) e-mail content listings.

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 1, said system further comprising a reporting module interfacable with said infraction module, said reporting module summarizing infringements identified by said infraction module.

Claim 8 (original): The system of claim 1, said system further comprising a reporting module interfacable with said cease-and-desist module, said reporting module summarizing attempts made by said cease-and-desist module to stop said infringements.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A system for detecting and preventing intellectual property infringement over a communication medium, said system comprising:

(a) at least one service module for scanning communication medium services for potentially infringing content;
(b) said service module capable of passing a reference address from a communication medium service having potentially infringing content;
(b) an infringement-identification module for receiving said reference address;
(c) said infringement-identification module capable of determining whether potentially infringing content is present;
(d) an infraction module for receiving said reference address;

(e) said infraction module capable of identifying infringing content;

(f) a cease-and-desist module for receiving said reference address; and

(g) said cease-and-desist module capable of attempting to remove said infringing content from said communication medium service having potentially infringing content.

Claim 10 (original): The system of claim 9 further comprising a reporting module for reporting attempts by said cease-and-desist module to remove infringing content.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one service module is a plurality of service modules, at least one of said plurality of service modules interfacable with another at least one of said plurality of service modules to provide a communication link to a possible infractor thereto.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A system for detecting and preventing intellectual property infringement over a communication medium, said system comprising:

(a) at least one service module for scanning said communication medium for potentially infringing content, said at least one service module capable of passing a reference address of a potential infringer;

(b) an infringement-identification module for receiving said reference address of a potential infringer, said infringement-identification module capable of determining whether infringing content is present and passing a reference address of an infringer; and

(c) a cease-and-desist module for receiving said reference address of an infringer and at least attempting to remove said infringing

content from said communication medium service having potentially infringing content.

Claim 13 (original): The system of claim 12 further comprising a reporting module for reporting the activity of said cease-and-desist module.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 12 wherein said at least one service module is a plurality of service modules, at least one of said plurality of service modules interfacable with another at least one of said plurality of service modules to provide a reference address of a potential infringer thereto.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method for detecting and preventing intellectual property infringement over a communication medium, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) scanning said communication medium for potentially infringing content;

(b) passing a reference address of a potential infringer to an infringement-identification module of a data processing system;

(c) determining whether infringing content is present using said infringement-identification module;

(d) passing a reference address of an infringer to a cease-and-desist module; and

(e) attempting to remove said infringing content from said communication medium service having potentially infringing content.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of reporting the results of said scanning step, determining step, and attempting to remove step to an owner of intellectual property.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of passing a reference address between a plurality of scanning modules to enhance said scanning step.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A system for detecting and preventing intellectual property infringement over a communication medium, said system comprising:

(a) means for scanning said communication medium for potentially infringing content;

(b) means for passing a reference address of a potential infringer;

(c) means for identifying infringement comprising:

(i) means for receiving said reference address of a potential infringer;

(ii) means for determining whether infringing content is present; and

(iii) means for passing a reference address of an actual infringer; and

(d) means for receiving said reference address of an actual infringer and at least attempting to remove said infringing content <u>from said communication medium service having potentially infringing content</u>.

Claim 19 (new): The system of claim 1, said cease-and-desist module for attempting to stop said infringements over said communication medium further selected from the group consisting of:

(a) said cease-and-desist module for contacting administrators of accounts or sites of at least one party responsible for piracy to terminate the site or account in question;

(b) said cease-and-desist module for contacting said at least one party responsible for piracy;

(c) said cease-and-desist module for assembling and issuing legal notices to said at least one party responsible for piracy; and

(d) said cease-and-desist module for sending a control message containing commands to delete offending material from a news-server.

Claim 20 (new): The system of claim 9, said cease-and-desist module capable of attempting to remove said infringing content further selected from the group consisting of:

(a) said cease-and-desist module capable of contacting administrators of accounts or sites of at least one party responsible for piracy to terminate the site or account in question;

(b) said cease-and-desist module capable of contacting said at least one party responsible for piracy;

(c) said cease-and-desist module capable of assembling and issuing legal notices to said at least one party responsible for piracy; and

(d) said cease-and-desist module capable of sending a control message containing commands to delete offending material from a news-server.

Claim 21 (new): The system of claim 12, said cease-and-desist module further being selected from the group consisting of:

(a) said cease-and-desist module further for contacting administrators of accounts or sites of at least one party responsible for piracy to terminate the site or account in question;

(b) said cease-and-desist module further for contacting said at least one party responsible for piracy;

(c) said cease-and-desist module further for assembling and issuing legal notices to said at least one party responsible for piracy; and

(d) said cease-and-desist module further for sending a control message containing commands to delete offending material from a news-server.

Claim 22 (new): The method of claim 15, wherein said step of attempting to remove said infringing content further comprises at least one step selected from the group consisting of:

(a) contacting administrators of accounts or sites of at least one party responsible for piracy to terminate the site or account in question;

(b) contacting said at least one party responsible for piracy;

(c) assembling and issuing legal notices to said at least one party responsible for piracy; and

(d) sending a control message containing commands to delete offending material from a news-server.

Claim 23 (new): The system of claim 18, said cease-and-desist module further comprising attempting to remove means selected from the group consisting of:

(a) means for contacting administrators of accounts or sites of at least one party responsible for piracy to terminate the site or account in question;

(b) means for contacting said at least one party responsible for piracy;

(c) means for assembling and issuing legal notices to said at least one party responsible for piracy; and

(d) means for sending a control message containing commands to delete offending material from a news-server.

Claim 24 (new): The system of claim 1, further comprising:

(a) a first service module for interfacing with a first service of said communication medium;

(b) a second service module for interfacing with a second service of said communication medium;

(c) said first service module for reviewing content of said first service for links to a possible infractor on said second service; and

(d) said first service module for providing a communication link to said second service module for follow-up processing.

Claim 25 (new): The system of claim 9, further comprising:

(a) a first service module capable of interfacing with a first communication medium service;

(b) a second service module capable of interfacing with a second communication medium service;

(c) said first service module capable of reviewing content of said first communication medium service for links to a possible infractor on said second communication medium service; and

(d) said first service module capable of providing a communication link to said second service module for follow-up processing.

Claim 26 (new): The system of claim 12, further comprising:

(a) a first service module for scanning a first service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content;

(b) a second service module for scanning a second service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content;

(c) said first service module for reviewing content of said first service for links to a possible infractor on said second service; and

(d) said first service module for providing a communication link to said second service module for follow-up scanning.

Claim 27 (new): The method of claim 15, further comprising:

(a) scanning a first service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content using a first service module;

(b) scanning a second service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content using a second service module;

(c) reviewing content of said first service using said first service module for links to a possible infractor on said second service; and

(d) transmitting a communication link from said first service module to said second service module for follow-up processing.

Claim 28 (new): The system of claim 18, further comprising:

(a) means for scanning a first service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content using a first service module;

(b) means for scanning a second service of said communication medium for potentially infringing content using a second service module;

(c) means for reviewing content of said first service using said first service module for links to a possible infractor on said second service; and

(d) means for transmitting a communication link from said first service module to said second service module for follow-up processing.